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*"Transferred officers" in the Andhra Government offices located in Madras City.*

* 1423 *Q.*—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state— 11 a.m.

(*a*) the number of staff belonging to the Residuary State employed as transferees in the Andhra Government offices functioning in the Madras City such as the Board of Revenue and other offices;

(*b*) how many of them are permanent and how many are temporary officials of this State; and

(*c*) whether they will be absorbed in the Residuary State services at the time of the shifting of these offices from the Madras City?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) Seventeen Gazetted officers have been taken as 'transferred officers' for service in the Andhra Government offices located in Madras City. They are liable to transfer to other appropriate posts in the Andhra State so long as they are in the service of that State.

" (*b*) Thirteen Gazetted Officers are permanent and the remaining four are temporary. Of the Non-gazetted officers 52 are permanent while 63 are temporary.

" (*c*) Under Section 63 (5) of the Andhra State Act, 1953, a transferred officer is required to serve the Andhra State for two years but under the proviso to the above section the Government of Andhra may return any such officer to this State at any time before the expiration of the period of two years after giving three months' notice to him and to the Government of Madras. In the case of the permanent staff mentioned in clause (*b*) of the question, the staff will be absorbed in this State when they are reverted to this State by the Government of Andhra after giving due notice as prescribed in the Act. In the case of the temporary staff the question of absorption will depend not only on their reversion to this State but also on the availability of vacancies for their absorption."

*Satyagraha by the workers of the Aaron Spinning and Weaving Mills, Pappinisseri.*

* 1424 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the workers of the Aaron Spinning and Weaving Mills, Pappinisseri, have started Satyagraha before the mills to get the arrears of wages due to them; and

(*b*) if so, what steps the Government propose to take in the matter?

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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (a) Yes, Sir.

" (b) The workers have been advised to file applications with the Commissioner for Workemen's Compensation under the Payment of Wages Act for recovery of arrears of salary due to them."

* 1425 Q.—SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received any report or representation from the local officers regarding the mass Satyagraha resorted to by the workers of Pappinisseri Aaron Mills with effect from 18th February 1954; and

(b) if so, whether any enquiry has been made into the reasons for the same?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (a) & (b) Yes, Sir."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" When a question on this subject came up before this Assembly last time, the Hon. Minister said that he would take action against the management for violating so many Labour Acts. May I inform the Hon. Minister that the management has violated the Industrial Disputes Act and the Payment of Wages Act? The management did not give notice to the workers before the closure of the factory. Have the Government taken any action against the management and what is the concrete proposal before the Government to give unemployment relief to the workers?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The information that the Government have is that the factory has been closed because there was a lot of stock which could not be disposed of and that the concern is in a very bad condition financially. Government have been taking steps to get the arrears of wages paid."

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" Are the Government aware of the fact that the machinery and other property belonging to the Aaron Mills, Limited, Pappinisseri, have been fixed up for sale by auction by the various creditors and the debenture trustees? As the Hon. Minister has replied that the workers have been advised to file individual applications for recovery of arrears of salary, may I submit that by the time action is taken on the applications the property may be removed and put to auction?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Government have been looking into the legal position."